

1. Canada-Ukraine (a) Do you support the imposition of sectoral sanctions against Russia's energy, defense and financial services (including removing Russian banks from the SWIFT international payments system) sectors to compel the Russian Federation to withdraw its troops, armies and weapons from Ukrainian soil?

Sanctions are proving to be an effective tactic in increasing the cost to the Russian Federation of its aggression. The Liberal Party of Canada was the first party in Parliament to raise the idea of using “access to SWIFT” as a method of putting pressure on Russia. A Liberal government will work with our allies to explore the feasibility of cutting off certain Russian banks from the Society for Worldwide Interbank Financial Telecommunication network

(b) Do you support providing Ukraine with lethal, defensive weapons to protect itself in the face of Russia's continued aggression and invasion of the Eastern Ukrainian oblasts of Luhansk and Donetsk?

The Liberal Party of Canada supports the Canadian Armed Forces' participation in a non-combat training mission in Ukraine. We believe providing training to Ukraine's military is the most effective way for Canada to support Ukraine and is consistent with our interests and capabilities.

(c) The international community has condemned Russia's occupation and attempted annexation of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea. Do you condemn Russia's illegal occupation?

The Liberal Party of Canada and our Leader Justin Trudeau have and continue to strongly condemn Russia's belligerent actions against Ukraine. A Liberal government will continue to send strong signals that this ongoing aggression and reckless disregard for the sovereignty and territorial integrity of Ukraine will have further, serious consequences.

(d) Do you support the listing of the Luhansk "People's Republic" and the Donetsk "People's Republic" as terrorist organizations? Do you support listing the Russian Federation as a State sponsor of terrorism for its continuing role in the invasion of eastern Ukraine and the shoot down of flight MH17 in July 2014?

A Liberal government would immediately expand the list of sanctioned Russians to include influential businessmen, and close Putin supporters, Igor Sechin and Vladimir Yakunin. We would also call for an urgent meeting of our NATO allies to decide whether further new steps must be taken, in view of escalating Russian aggression in Ukraine.

2. Historical recognition (a) Do you support the establishment of October 28 as the annual day of commemoration of Canada's First National Internment Operations (1914-1920)?

The Liberal Party of Canada recognizes this shameful chapter in Canadian history and will work with the Ukrainian-Canadian community to find an appropriate way to commemorate this dark part of our past. The lessons of the dangers of intolerance and suspicion must be passed on to future generations to ensure that they are not repeated.

Regards, Bernadette

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